

**REMARKS**

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Claims 2, 9, and 15 remain canceled, and claims 16 and 17 are canceled by this Amendment. Thus, claims 1, 3-8 and 10-14 are the only claims pending. As claims 1, 3-8 and 10-14 are allowed, this application is in condition for allowance.

In the event that there are any questions relating to this Amendment, or the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney concerning such questions so that the prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

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By:   
William C. Rowland  
Registration No. 30,888

P.O. Box 1404  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404  
(703) 836-6620